

# **CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY**

## **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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## **Westly Decries Bush Stem Cell Veto**

**SACRAMENTO** – State Controller Steve Westly today issued the following statement on President Bush’s veto of the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act:

“Stem cell research provides a glimmer of hope for the millions of Americans who suffer from debilitating diseases like cancer, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease. President Bush today turned his back on those patients and their families by vetoing important legislation that would have greatly expanded stem cell research.

“Despite this setback, California will continue to implement Prop 71, the 2004 stem cell initiative passed overwhelmingly by California voters. It is critical that we get these research dollars to the scientists working on finding cures and saving lives.

“President Bush’s action proves once again that where the federal government fails, California will lead.”

Westly is the Chair of the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine’s Financial Accountability Oversight Committee. As Controller, he also appoints five members to the Institute’s Independent Citizens Oversight Committee.

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